Editorial

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Published online: 1 September 2013
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The *Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons* (JSPS) was founded in 1964 and is now one of the most premier organisations of paediatric surgeons in the world. The 50th Anniversary Meeting of the JSPS was held in the Keio Plaza Hotel, Tokyo, Japan from 30th May to 1st June 2013. The main theme of the anniversary meeting was “Towards the Following 50 Years”. The Organising and Programme Committees made every effort that the anniversary meeting was international and educational for young paediatric surgeons. This was achieved by bringing together at this meeting the leading paediatric surgeons from Japan and other continents to present and discuss their up-to-date clinical and research findings. The highlights of the anniversary meeting were: The Memorial Round Table on “The Role of Scientific Journal in Paediatric Surgery”, and the Six International Panel Discussions. The speakers at the

Round Table Conference on “The Role of Scientific Journal in Paediatric Surgery” included Professors Keijiro Suruga, Jay L Grosfeld and Prem Puri (Fig. 1). This session under the chairmanship of Prof Hiroaki Kitagawa generated a lot of interesting discussion on the role of scientific journals in paediatric surgery in education, research and clinical care. The Six International Panel Discussions included important topics such as intestinal failure, minimally invasive surgery, redo surgery, paediatric oncology, paediatric trauma, and collaboration in education among Asian countries. Invited as well as national experts gave lectures on their respective fields at the International Panels. The international panel discussion session which was prepared with the help and support of the WOFAPS Executive Board, proved to be highly successful, generating a lot of interest and discussion.

T. Iwanaka is a Congress Chairman, the 50th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons and T. Taguchi is the President, Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons.

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Fig. 1 The memorial round table: Professors Jay L Grosfeld, Keijiro Suruga, Prem Puri, and Hiroaki Kitagawa from the left side

JSPS Anniversary Meeting was very well attended with the total number of participants of 1,160, including a large number of overseas guests from 27 countries. It was a very successful meeting in which 695 papers related to clinical paediatric surgery and paediatric surgical research were presented.

We, the guest editors of this special JSPS Anniversary Issue, are honoured to share the contents of the highly successful meeting of the 50th Anniversary of JSPS with all the paediatric surgeons around the world.